

DEBATE QUESTIONING/CROSS EXAMINING GUIDELINES

- Have prepared questions ready ahead of time
- Have possible answers to questions and follow up questions ready as well
- Be ready to add to list on day of debate while listening to opponents arguments

TYPES OF QUESTIONS:

-FACTUAL or STRAIGHTFORWARD (have the answers handy when opponents are stumped)

- *How many people occupy jails today?*
- *What percentage of crimes are considered serious (such as murder) each year?*
- *Do you know how much time it takes to complete an actual execution?*
- *Does taking a repeat murderer's life, end any chances of that person murdering again?*
- *Do you know the reasons behind the War in Iraq?*
- *How many soldiers have died so far?*
- *How many soldiers are over there right now?*
- *Has Saddam's capture ended all hostilities and violence like they thought?*

-TRICKY, "LEADING" TYPES OF QUESTIONS (ask easy ones first, leading opponents on, then ask question that they must answer in a certain way, but will backtrack out of)

- *Do you agree that taking an innocent person's life is a major crime?*
- *Do you agree that there have been cases where criminals have been paroled or escaped and committed violent crimes again?*
- *Do you agree that prisons are currently overcrowded?*
- *Then you must agree that the best way to solve these problems is to execute murderers and repeat violent offenders!? Why risk any of the above happening?*
- *Do you agree that 9/11 was one of the most tragic days in our country's history?*
- *Do you agree that terrorists from the Middle East were responsible for it?*
- *Do you know that Iraq has harbored and trained terrorists in the past?*
- *Then why are you against the US ridding that country of terrorists and training facilities? Do you want another 9/11? Maybe this time in Pittsburgh where you parents live?*

-ATTACKING QUESTIONS (be fast, furious, and make your opponents uncomfortable)

- *If your brother, sister, Mom or Dad were violently butchered, forced to suffer, and even watch each other die, can you honestly sit there and tell us you would be fine with that murderer simply sitting in prison for a few years, and maybe getting back out someday? Your family members wouldn't ever come back, so why should the murderer??*
- *Is it fair to have taxpayers waste money taking care of worthless criminals, when their money could go towards more important things, like schools? Homeless people? Terrorism precautions?*
- *The Bible says an "Eye for an Eye- how can you argue with God's word?*
- *Why should a murderer, especially one who has killed multiple times- ever get a second chance? It's not like that person simply was late to class, or got into a fight- he killed another human being!!*
- *War has sacrifices and loss; don't you think a few hundred American casualties are better than 50 thousand innocent Iraqi deaths like has occurred in that country for so long?*
- *What should the US do, sit back and do nothing? Aren't "big brothers" supposed to help the "little guys" out?*
- *Saddam was a sadistic torturer, he is now gone- doesn't that mean the war could be considered a success?*
- *If your loved one died on 9/11, wouldn't you want justice for those responsible, AND the promise that it would never happen again?*